THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 14th September 1946.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Scheme for rural water-supply.

* 86 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(*a*) Whether any scheme for rural water-supply is in operation now;

(*b*) whether any fund has been created for the purpose;

(*c*) whether drinking-water wells have been successfully dug and, if so, what their number districtwar is;

(*d*) how many years it would take to complete the programme;

(*e*) whether special staff has been employed for the purpose; if so, what its strength is;

(*f*) what Department of Government is entrusted with the scheme; and

(*g*) what is the amount spent so far on the scheme?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—" (*a*) and (*b*) Yes.

" (*c*) Yes. A statement [a] to show the number of works carried out under the scheme during the period commencing from 1939–40 to 1945–46 is laid on the table.

" (*d*) One of the Government's post-war plans (Scheme No. 97) contemplates the complete execution of the rural water-supply programme in ten years.

" (*e*) A statement [b] showing the staff employed is laid on the table.

" (*f*) The district Collector under the supervision of the Board of Revenue is in charge of the execution of works under the Scheme. Education and Public Health Department in the Secretariat is in general charge of the subject, 'rural water-supply'.

" (*g*) The figures of expenditure on the execution of the scheme during the period from 1939–40 to 1946–47 are given below :—

		RS.
1939–40	Actuals	4,18,886
1940–41	"	4,54,379
1941–42	"	6,24,682
1942–43	"	10,53,757
1943–44	"	10,18,633
1944–45	"	12,39,281
1945–46	(Revised Estimate)	18,78,464
1946–47	(Budget Estimate)	25,12,000 "

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 592 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix I on page 592 infra.

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister will examine how far the staff employed is adequate to carry out the target laid down in the Government's post-war plans? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I say that the staff to carry out rural water-supply schemes is absolutely inadequate. In fact, Scheme No. 97 of the post-war plans contemplates the employment of hundred maistris, and when these hundred maistris and other officers are available, I think, we will be having an adequate number of people to execute the works."

Adviser for Ayurvedic Institutions.

* 87 *Q.*—LIEUT.-COL. K. R. K. AYYANGAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the qualifications of the person chosen to advise on the starting of Ayurvedic institutions and organizing them are;

(*b*) what are his emoluments;

(*c*) whether he has submitted a report on the question of the location of such institutions; and

(*d*) if so, whether the Government propose to lay this on the Table of the House?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" (*a*) The officer is a B.A., B.L., and a retired Law Secretary to the Government of Mysore. In addition to his being Law Secretary, he was also in charge of the Medical portfolio in Mysore. He has had administrative experience in the Department of Indian Medicine and was also the Chairman of the Committee for Indigeneous Systems of Medicine in Mysore.

" (*b*) The Government have decided to grant him an honorarium of Rs. 500 per mensem in addition to a conveyance allowance of Rs. 100 per mensem. He has been treated as a first grade officer for purposes of travelling allowance.

" (*c*) It has been tentatively proposed to open colleges of Indian Medicine (Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani) at five places, namely, Madras, Bezwada, Tanjore, Mangalore and Calicut. The officer has submitted proposals for accommodation in respect of the first three places.

" (*d*) As Government are considering the recommendations, it would be premature to lay the report on the Table of the House."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister for Public Health has received representations from the Ceded Districts requesting her to consider the desirability of opening a college in that area? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" Yes, representations have been received for opening a college of Indian Medicine in Ceded Districts. The proposal was considered whether it